

MUSEUM BULLETIN

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF COLLECTORS OF ALL CLASSES AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL.

VOL. I—No. 9.

WEIRS, N. H., JANUARY AND FERRUARY, 1887.

C. P. WILCOMB, Pub.

(Written for Museum Bulletin.)

Fishes and Reptiles of the Cretaceous Epoch.

FISHES.

The remains of not less than seventy-eight genera of fishes have been obtained from this system. The majority of these are of the older orders of placoids and ganoids, but during this era the ctenoid and cycloid orders (to which most existing fishes belong) found their existence—their remains being found, for the first time, in Cretaceous strata. And from this epoch onward, the orders of placoid and ganoid fishes gradually diminish and fade out, while the ctenoids and cycloids rapidly develop, until at present they seem to have reached the climax, exceeding in number all other fishes. At the present time the sturgeons and gar-pikes, of our western rivers, are the most familiar representatives of the ganoid order, and the skates, dog-fish and sharks, of the placoid order;—these are the fragments of dynasties that once visited every sea, and predominated during the ages from the time of Lower Devonian until those of Chalk.

REPTILES.

The reptiles so numerous in the preceding eras, greatly diminished in numbers during the Cretaceous epoch. The ichthyosaurus and the plesiosaurus continued to exist, but their rule over the ocean was shared by a new lizard-like reptile, the Masasaurus. This reptile was about twenty-five feet in length, and had paddles instead of legs, and a tail suited to assist it in swimming. A perfect specimen of its head, which was found imbedded in limestone, at Maestricht, Belgium, measured four and a half feet long, by two and a half broad. The history of this remarkable fossil is related by Mr. Mantell, as follows: In 1770, the workmen employed in blasting limestone from the celebrated quarries at Maestricht, Belgium, perceived, to their astonishment, the jaws of an enormous animal attached to the roof of a cavern which they were excavating. The discovery was immediately made known to M. Hoffman, a naturalist of the town, who repaired to the spot, and for weeks presided over the task of separating the mass of stone containing

Relic Hunters, Archæologists, Collectors, Dealers.

IMPORTANT TO ALL!

The following Indian collection of relics of the Stone Age, the property of a prominent New Hampshire collector, has been left with me for disposal, and as the gentleman is desirous of selling them at once, they will be sold at the following extremely low prices. It is a rare collection of Pre-historic relics, and most of the specimens need separate description, but for want of time and space I am compelled to throw them into lots at a small price, regardless of their immense cost. They will be in my hands only a few days, and if any one expects to get hold of any of the lots it will be necessary to order immediately or surely be disappointed. C. P. WILCOMB.

For next 15 days address me at Lake Village, N. H.

Lot No. 1. Contains 1 grooved Stone Axe, size 5 x 2 3-4 inches; 1 Stone Skinner, size 3 1-2 x 2 inches; 1 Jasper Hide scraper, 1 Spear-head, flint; 3 flint Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.00.

Lot No. 2. 1 grooved Stone Axe, 4 1-2 x 3 inches; 1 Stone Chisel, 3 1-2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 Spear head, flint; 1 Jasper Scraper, 5 flint Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.00.

Lot No. 3. 1 large Tomahawk, 4 x 2 inches; 1 Celt, 2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 Jasper Knife, 3 Spear-heads, 6 flint Arrow-heads. Price 90 cents.

Lot No. 4. 1 large grooved Stone Axe, 6 1-4 x 3 1-4 inches. Price, 90 cents.

Lot No. 5. 1 large Tomahawk, 6 x 3 inches; 1 Mallet, 4 x 3 inches; 1 Skinner, 3 1-4 x 2 inches; 3 Spear-heads, 4 Arrow-heads. Price, \$2.00.

Lot No. 6. 1 large grooved Axe, 5 1-2 x 3 1-4 inches; 1 large Tomahawk, 3 x 2 inches; 1 Celt, 3 1-2 x 2 inches; 2 Spear-heads, 5 flint Arrow-heads. Price, \$2.25.

Lot No. 7. 1 Muller, 5 x 3 1-4 inches; 1 Ceremonial Stone, 3 1-4 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 flint Skinner, 3 1-2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 Spear-head, 3 flint Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.00.

Lot No. 8. 1 large Pestle, 10 1-2 inches long; 1 Chisel, 4 1-2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 Jasper Knife, 3 Spear-heads, 6 flint Arrow-heads. Price, \$2.75.

Lot No. 9. 1 heavy Stone Corn-Grinder, 4 1-4 x 3 inches; 1 Sinkers, 1 Game Stone, 6 Spear-heads, 10 Arrow-heads. Price, 1.50.

Lot No. 10. 1 Stone grooved Hoe, rare, 5 x 2 inches; 1 Ceremonial Stone, 3 x 2 inches; 1 Spear-head, 3 Arrow-heads. Price, \$2.00.

Lot No. 11. 1 Stone Paint Mortar or Corn-Grinder, 2 3-4 x 1 inches. Price, \$2.75.

Lot No. 12. 1 handsome Tomahawk, 4 x 3 in.; 1 Gorget, 1 perforation, 3 1-2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 white flint Chisel, 4 1-4 x 1 1-2 inches; 3 Spear-heads, 6 Arrow-heads. Price, \$2.00.

Lot No. 13. 1 large Stone Mortar or Paint Mill, 8 1-2 x 6 x 4 inches. Price, \$5.00.

Lot No. 14. 1 Stone grooved Hammer, 2 3-4 x 1 3-4 inches; 1 Tomahawk, 3 1-2 x 1 1-2 inches; 1 Jasper Scraper, 1 Spear-head, 5 Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.75.

Lot No. 15. 1 Stone Pipe, 2 1-4 x 1 1-2 inches. Price, \$1.50.

Lot No. 16. 1 Chisel, a beauty, 5 1-2 x 1 3-4 inches; 1 white flint Celt, 4 1-2 x 2 inches; 1 Jasper Scraper, 1 Spear-head, 6 Arrow-heads, 10 pieces Indian Pottery. Price, \$1.35.

Lot No. 17. 1 Stone Anvil, 3 x 2 1-2 x 2 inches; 1 Stone Adze, choice, rare, 3 1-4 x 2 inches; 1 Gorget, 6 Arrow-heads, 1 Spear-head. Price, \$1.75.

Lot No. 18. 1 white flint Chisel, end polished, 5 1-4 x 1 3-4 inches; 1 flint Drill, 1 Stone Bead, 1 Spear-head, 10 Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.50.

Lot No. 19. 1 grooved Stone Axe, 4 x 3 3-4 in.; 1 flint Drill, 1 Bead, 1 Jasper Scraper, 2 Spear-heads, 5 Arrow-heads. Price, \$1.50.

Lot No. 20. 7 Scrapers, Knives, etc., Jasper; 1 Bead, 5 Spear-heads, 9 Arrow-heads, 15 pieces Indian Pottery. Price, 75 cents.

Lot No. 21. 13 Spear-heads, various forms and sizes, fine lot. Price, 75 cents.

Lot No. 22. 10 flint Spears, better lot, some 4 1-2 inches. Price, 85 cents.

Lot No. 23. 25 Spear-heads, mixed lot. Price, \$1.25.

Lot No. 24. 40 flint Arrow-heads, various odd forms and colors. Price, 90 cents.

Lot No. 25. 200 Arrow-heads, mixed lot, large and small. Price, \$3.50.

Lot No. 26. 85 Extra fine Arrow-heads, selected from a lot of over 1000, all perfect flint arrows, and choice. Price, \$4.50.

Lot No. 27. 9 Jasper Arrow-heads, handsome, rare. Price, \$1.00.

Lot No. 28. 22 white quartz Arrow-heads, very showy; all neatly labeled with red paint. Price, \$1.25.

Lot No. 29. 50 black flint Arrow-heads, all selects, fine and perfect, all came from one collection, each specimen neatly labeled with red paint and printed, very rare. Price, \$4.75.

Lot No. 30. 50 pieces Indian Pottery. Price, 90 cents.

C. P. WILCOMB, Lake Village, N. H.

the remains. His labors were at length repaid by the successful extraction of the specimen, which he conveyed in triumph to his house. Unfortunately the Dean of the Cathedral claimed the fossil in right of being lord of the manor and succeeded, by a law suit, in obtaining the precious relic. It remained in his possession for many years and Hoffman died without regaining his treasure, or receiving any compensation. The French revolution broke out, and the armies of the Republic advanced to the gates of Meastritch; the town was bombarded, but by desire of a committee of scientific men, who accompanied the French troops, the artillery was not allowed to play on that part of the city in which the celebrated fossil was known to be kept. In the meanwhile, the Dean, shrewdly suspecting why such peculiar favor was shown to his residence, concealed the specimen in a secret vault; but when the city was taken the French authorities compelled him to give up his ill-gotten prize, which was taken to the Jardin des Plantes, at Paris, where it now forms one of the most striking objects in that magnificent collection. Its teeth are found in the Cretaceous deposits of this country also. In 1858, there was found in the green-sands of Camden Co., New Jersey, the remains of a huge saurian reptile—the Hadrosaurus—which was closely allied to the iguanodon, and it proved, by the structure of its teeth, to have been herbivor-

ous (plant-eating). The length of the Hadrosaurus is estimated, by Professor Leidy, to have been about twenty-five feet; but a better idea of its enormous size may be gained from the statement, that its thigh bone is nearly one-third longer than that of the mastodon. Its hind leg bones when put together, measure seven feet, upon which the pelvis, back-bone, and upper skin would still go on, making it nine or ten feet high upon the haunches. The animal was probably amphibious. Its bones can be seen at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. The remains of crocodiles and turtles are also common in the rocks of the Cretaceous system. G. D. STORY.

(Written for Museum Bulletin).

A Word to Collectors.

At the present time there seems to be a *mania* among both old and young for collecting relics and curiosities of both ancient and modern times. Some devote their time to collecting stamps, some coins, some Indian relics, others to making a miscellaneous collection of every thing from the four quarters of the globe, simply for the name or fun of it. Among this array of collectors, you will find many thorough students who are making specialties of one or more of these subjects, and devoting all of their spare time and energy to discover everything of interest connected with each specimen added to their collections. It is a pleasure to them to classify and arrange every article in their cabinets in a thorough and systematic manner, so that they may be able, at any time, to call the attention of any visitor to some leading characteristic of each class of objects in such a manner as to make the listener wholly oblivious of time. Every enthusiastic student can and will do this. It is wrong to collect simply for the name of it, for it causes a demand for a certain line of curios, which increases the price to such a degree, that it places them out of the reach of the young collector, who makes his *hobby* a study. There are too many persons who have no love for their hobbies, that beg or buy these specimens of people that do not know their value, and hold them till they can make a *dollar* on them, dealing in them the same as they would in groceries, flour or hardware. All they are after is the *almighty dollar*. You will find that the honest collectors will help each other, and all will be benefited thereby. Each collector should warn his brother collector, when he has been BITTEN by some unprincipled fel-

low, to look out for such parties, and thereby save much trouble and expense among his friends. The writer has been making exchanges for years and has found every one fair and honorable, with but one or two exceptions, and one of them, I am sorry to say, is a dealer in Indian relics, who occasionally advertises in some of our curiosity papers. There are *other* people collecting besides *inexperienced* boys. If any party has any grievance to make, settle it with the one you are dealing with, or each return the articles sent. Follow the golden rule: "Do to others as you would that they should do to you," and there will be no trouble. If you would prosper, take several of the leading publications on the different subjects you are interested in and keep posted, also contribute articles and items of interest in your line, and thereby help both the reader and publishers of *this* and *other* papers. E. G. W.

Three Rivers, Mass.

(Written for Museum Bulletin.)

Items of Interest.

The post office museum at Berlin contains 418 varieties of postal cards.

Free delivery was introduced in 1825, registry in 1854, money orders in 1861.

A fine Indian stone axe was recently found near Wilmington, Del., four feet below the surface in an old sand pit.

The oldest letter found sealed with sealing-wax was written by Dr. Knight, at Spire in 1624, to the government at Bayreuth.

The *Peabody Museum* of Archaeology contains about twenty thousand specimens that were collected in the vicinity of Trenton, New Jersey.

It appears that the mails were first carried on railways in the United States in 1837, while regular cars for the assorting of letters in transit were first introduced in 1864.

The great sculptured stone of Montezuma, in Mexico, is a striking proof of the extent to which granite can be sculptured with stone implements. Gama, in his work describing this stone, states that ten thousand Indians were employed in transporting it to its place, where it was sculptured by thirty workmen with stone axes.

A young man of twenty recently took to wife a Pennsylvania widow of fifty, the sole proprietress of a couple of petroleum wells. Of him it may be truly said that he loved not wisely but too well(s).

CHOICE MINERALS CHEAP.

Collectors wishing to represent this famous locality should send for my new descriptive price list. 10 choice picked specimens, large cabinet size, \$1.00; 12 choice, 50c; 30 for \$1.00; single specimens, 5c to 50c; mixed specimens, extra choice, 2 to 5 different minerals in one piece, beauties, 25c to \$1.00. No inferior specimens. Satisfaction guaranteed, or money refunded. Will give good exchange in minerals for Colonial, Continental, Confederate and Fractional Currency, also Confederate bonds and stamps and minerals. Books and papers to exchange for others on N. H. Minerals and Geology. GEORGE D. STORY, Cartersville, Mo.

FOR SALE.

Newspapers from all parts of the world, Zinc Ores, Woods, Chinese Opium Pipes, Playing Cards, Singalese Sandals, old German Parchment Documents, Mexican Aztec Pottery. Curios bought, sold and exchanged. All articles must be suitable for my public museum collections. SEEBACK, Peru, Ill.

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GOSSIP.

The BULLETIN reaches collectors in every State in the Union, besides many Foreign countries.

Our Riverside Museum contained over 10,000 named and classified specimens in February, 1886.

Look at the bargains offered to collectors on first page of this paper. There are no duplicates on hand of the lots.

Mr. George E. Townes, medalist, 134 Park Row, New York, recently sent for our cabinet a handsome medal, struck by him in honor of the celebrated Rev. Dr. McGlynn.

The *Audubon Magazine* is the finest paper of the kind that has appeared this year, and we would advise every reader to send 6 cents for a copy, to the Audubon Society, 40 Park Row, N. Y.

We have received from Mr. F. B. Webster's natural history store, 409 Washington St., Boston, a handsome mounted bird for our cabinet. Many thanks. The collecting season is not far distant and collectors should not forget that Mr. Webster has the largest stock of tools and naturalists' supplies in this country, and prices for same can't be beat.

An archæological association would undoubtedly be of great benefit to the many collectors interested in that branch of collecting. Archæology is a deep and pleasing study, and such an association would aid its members by exchanging their views on the different questions, and also by exchanging specimens from the different localities. Let the papers take hold of this, so that in a short time we will have an archæological association well under way.

Seebach, Peru, Ill., has added a large variety of Australian ferns, German parchment documents from 1359 upwards, Chinese curios, such as are not met with daily, to his *museum collection*. His very interesting collection, comprising some 400 cases of Natural History and Ethnological subjects, has been and some are now exhibited in Chicago, Grand Rapids, Pittsburgh, Memphis, Atlanta and Omaha shortly. His "ad." appears in another part of our journal.

We are in receipt of a case of curiosities for our museum from Messrs. Wheeler & Clark, East Templeton, Mass. The selection consists mostly of marine curios, such as sea beavers, corals, sea eggs, sea fans, shells, huge star fish, etc., all direct from West India Islands. Messrs. Wheeler & Clark control a large curiosity business, both wholesale and retail, and carry a very complete stock. They are gentlemen to deal with and are noted for giving best quality and full value for the money. Mr. Wheeler is now in Florida with his assistants, collecting a large stock of curios.

Dr. A. E. Foote of 1223 Belmont avenue, Philadelphia, Pa., has the largest stock of minerals in the world, and also the largest stock of named shells, as well as of scientific, medical, agricultural and horticultural books in America. His stock of minerals consists of over 70 tons, or over 700,000 specimens, valued at \$60,000. His large catalogue and manual is perfectly unique and is just what is needed by collectors. Prof. Foote puts up collections for students, amateurs, colleges and museums. The quality and price of his collections have never been equaled by any other dealer.

We have reason to believe that many of our readers and friends misdeem our object in collecting specimens. Some may think we expect to profit financially, and that all specimens sent to us are liable to be disposed of, perhaps sold or exchanged, as we advertise to buy and sell museum goods. We wish it might be distinctly understood that such is not the case by any means, as we *never* dispose of specimens *donated* us, and only sell such specimens as we buy for that purpose. We have many specimens in our private cabinets which have been presented to us, and we feel very thankful and grateful for such favors. All specimens brought to us for our cabinet are preserved and properly labelled, and acknowledgements made in the labels on such specimens, the donor's name being entered thereon when they are placed in our cabinet to

remain. It is true we do *buy* and *sell* specimens, sometimes we buy large collections, but our main object in handling such material is to advance our already large collection, which will aid us materially to develop, illustrate and study the natural history of the world, and which is designed to promote in the best way the cause of education. By buying and selling we are enabled to procure many new and rare forms, which we can hardly ever expect to obtain in any other way. By trading we constantly have many duplicates on hand which we will sell very cheap.

A "crank" in Berlin collects second-hand boot and shoe heels. He now has over 1,000 and keeps them in an elegant glass case. This is worse than Postage Stamps.

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BOOKS RELATING TO COINS.

BETTS (WYLLYS). Counterfeit halfpence coined in Connecticut and Vermont, 1778-1788. An address before the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society. 17 pp., 27 wood cuts, royal 8vo., paper. New York, 1886. Price, 50 cents.

COGAN (EDWARD). Table of gold, silver and copper coins, not issued by the U. S. Mint. 6 pp., 8vo. New York, 1871. Published at 20 cents. Now offered at 12 cents.

CROSBY (S. S.). The early coins of America and the laws governing their issue, comprising, also, description of the Washington pieces, the Anglo-American tokens, many pieces of unknown origin of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the first patterns of the U. S. Mint. 381 pp., 10 heliotype plates and 110 wood engravings, 4 to., half morocco. Boston, 1875. Published at \$15.

Now offered at \$6.00.

MARIS (EDWARD, M. D.). A historical sketch of the coins of New Jersey, with a double heliotype plate containing specimens of the Mark Newbie coppers, and the issues of 1786-87-88 with obverses, reverses and combinations of the different varieties of the latter and a detailed description of the distinctive differences and rarity. 17 pp., large folio, cloth. Philadelphia, 1881. Published at \$3.50.

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MORRIS (ROBERT, LL. D.). Coins of the Grand Masters of the Order of Malta or Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, with a chapter on the money of the Crusaders; also an introduction, heraldic and historic notes and copious index by W. T. R. Marvin, A. M. xvi. and 70 pp., six full page plates, cap quarto, appropriate head and tail pieces, initials, broad margins, etc., heavy boards. Cloth published at \$2.50. Now offered at \$1.50.

STAINFIELD (C. W.). Descriptive catalogue of Australian Tradesmen's Tokens, illustrated with 35 wood engravings; also some account of the early silver pieces and gold coinage of Australia. iii., 74 and vi. pp., cloth. London, 1883. Published at \$1.60. Now offered at \$1.00.

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